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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re application of: HU et al.

Attorney Docket No.:  
01-377/1D/LSI1P180D1

Application No.: Filed Herewith

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Group: Unassigned

Title: METHOD OF PREVENTING RESIST  
POISONING IN DUAL DAMASCENE  
STRUCTURES

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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on December 31, 2003 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10, Mailing Label Number **ET582748105US**, addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Sue Funchess

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(b)**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449 may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit the list of these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these references of official record in this application. The above-identified application is a divisional application of prior application U.S. Patent Application No. 10/025,304. This prior application is being relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Because the listed references were either cited by the PTO, or submitted to the PTO in the prior application, under 37 CFR § 1.98(d) Applicants submit that copies need not be provided.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that these references indeed constitute prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is: (i) filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-referenced application, (ii) believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first

Office Action on the merits, or (iii) believed to be filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 12-2252 (Order No. 01-377/1D).

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Lee", written in a cursive style.

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<b>Form 1449 (Modified)</b>  <b>Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant</b>  (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)	Atty Docket No. <b>01-377/1D/LSI1P180D1</b>	Application No.: <b>Filed Herewith</b>
	Applicant: <b>HU et al.</b> Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>	Group <b>Unassigned</b>

#### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
	A	6,436,824 B1	08/20/02	Chooi et al.	438	687	07/02/99
	B	6,482,755 B1	11/19/02	Ngo et al.	438	792	06/12/01
	C	6,528,884 B1	03/04/03	Lopatin et al.	257	758	06/01/01
	D						
	E						
	F						
	G						
	H						
	I						

#### Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application

Examiner Initial	No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
							Yes	No
	J							
	K							
	L							
	M							
	N							

#### Other Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Date, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication
	O	
	P	
	Q	
Examiner		Date Considered

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.